

thank the people of my community who truly have been, each and every one of them, ambassadors of freedom from the United States to our great sister state of Hungary.

AUTO INDUSTRY FACTS AND FIGURES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to rise today.

Madam Speaker, over the course of the last 30 years, pockets of our country have been facing some very difficult times. And I have the honor of representing an area in Northeast Ohio, from Akron over to Youngstown. This is an area that was built on steel and rubber and auto and manufacturing. And I want to make one comment, as I rise to talk a little bit about the auto industry, about my friend, the gentleman from Arizona, who was commenting about earmarks and investments that Members of Congress are constitutionally required to make and spend money on behalf of the people of this country.

In areas like mine who, for 30 or 40 years, were booming, had the highest per capita income in the country when the steel mills were going, we were taking our tax dollars and we were sending that money to Washington, D.C.; Washington, D.C. was sending that money to help build the West, to help build up States like Arizona, and to implement water projects and dam projects to take the Colorado River into the desert.

These congressional districts in Arizona and New Mexico, they didn't just pop up. There was a significant Federal investment to say that we want to develop the West. And now, Members of Congress who are looking for the opportunity to rebuild their community, to take specific projects and specific money and invest it in Youngstown State University, Akron University for Polymers, Youngstown State for Defense Center of Excellence, Youngstown State for Metrology and Materials Science Development, these are investments that we need to make to rehabilitate some old industrial areas to get them on the cutting edge, and I think our obligation is to do that. But in our area, what has transpired just over the last few months has been significant. And I will give you one example.

Earlier last year, in the summertime, General Motors at a local Lordstown plant said that they were going to put on a third shift. We had the governor in; there were state tax incentives, \$350 million. And eventually, because of the credit crisis and globalization and 30 years of bad trade agreements, the third shift was pulled. Then the second shift was pulled. And now we have a fraction of the workers that we used to have there.

But the minute GM announced that they were going to lay off 900 workers, a couple days later the seat manufacturer laid off a few hundred; a couple days later the logistics company laid off a couple hundred workers; Delphi laid off. And on and on and on the ripple effect goes throughout the community, to the point where Trumbull County's unemployment rate last year, Madam Speaker, was 7 percent.

□ 1515

It is to the point where Trumbull County's unemployment rate last year, Madam Speaker, was 7 percent. Today it is 14 percent. It doubled in a year.

And the point of my rising here today is to say to anyone who will listen and to the powers that be in Washington, D.C., that we need a manufacturing policy in the United States of America. We can look at the Dutch, the Spanish and the Brits. When 20 to 25 percent of their gross domestic product became finance, where people are just shuffling money around, where it is a Ponzi scheme and Wall Street is making a lot of money, and wages don't ever go up, then eventually you get to where we are today. And that is a collapse of the financial system.

We have a system now that is set up, Madam Speaker, that if an average family makes some mistakes, they are on their own. We cut them loose. But if the financial markets make a major mistake and do illegal and unethical acts, that they have the system so rigged that the whole thing collapses. And so everyone has to jump in to save it.

And so as we move over the course of the next few weeks and next few months, we need to recognize that the auto industry has a multiplier effect of five jobs for every one job in the plant, and finance has two jobs for every job in the finance industry. And we can talk about companies like Wheatland Tube, who have closed factories down in northeast Ohio and western Pennsylvania because of the tubing coming in from China. We could talk about auto. We could talk about Severstal Steel, who laid off 1,000 people. We could go on and on and on, Madam Speaker.

So let me suggest that as we talk about financial reform and universal health care, that we also add a manufacturing policy to the United States plan for the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF COAST GUARD PETTY OFFICER FIRST CLASS LAVELAS LUCKEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUMMINGS. First of all, Madam Speaker, I would like to associate myself with the words of Mr. RYAN of Ohio. He is absolutely right. And we can do better in this country with regard to the issues of making sure that we have a manufacturing base. Not

only must we have a manufacturing base, but we must have an innovation base. And in order to have that, certainly we have to build up our educational systems throughout these United States.

Madam Speaker, I come before the House today as chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation to pay a special tribute to a true American hero, Coast Guard Petty Officer First Class Lavelas Luckey. Last week, a 33-year-old woman tragically lost her life when her car was struck from behind and pushed into the path of a garbage truck as she was preparing to drop her daughter off at a nursery school in Glen Burnie, Maryland.

Petty Officer Lavelas Luckey, an electrical equipment specialist at the nearby Engineering Logistics Center's Equipment Management Division at the Coast Guard Yard in Curtis Bay, Maryland, happened to be in the area at the time. And he immediately sprung into action. According to authorities, after realizing people were still in the badly damaged vehicle, Petty Officer Luckey immediately pushed through a crowd of onlookers and pulled the 5-year-old girl from her car seat minutes before the car burst into flames. The little girl's mother was freed from the car by a police officer.

Unfortunately, the girl's mother, Christine Schoppert, was pronounced dead at the scene. Thankfully, however, the child survived the crash and was immediately taken to the Johns Hopkins Hospital with life-threatening injuries. Recent reports indicate that she is improving. My prayers, and I know the prayers of this Congress, are with the family of Christine Schoppert and her daughter as she begins to make what we hope will be a speedy and complete recovery.

I'm extremely grateful that I have a chance to thank Petty Officer First Class Lavelas Luckey for putting his own safety at great risk in saving this precious young life. After speaking to his commanding officers and fellow members of the Coast Guard, none of them were surprised by Petty Officer Luckey's actions. Petty Officer Luckey has been described as being an extremely dedicated member of the United States Coast Guard—and as a great human being. These are powerful words that should not be taken lightly. Far too often we look to the red carpets of Hollywood and our local football stadiums to find our heroes while overlooking the individuals who perform truly heroic actions in our own neighborhoods.

I take my hat off to Petty Officer First Class Lavelas Luckey for his act of bravery and applaud the entire United States Coast Guard and the rest of our armed services for their efforts to protect this country from all harm. I also extend a special salute to all of the Nation's first responders who risk their lives every day to save others.